

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 176734

E.O. 11652:

TAGS: PFOR, RO, KN, CS

SUBJECT: NORTH KOREAN INTEREST IN COSTA RICA

REF: (A) BUCHAREST 3232 , (B) SAN JOSE 2967

1. IN DISCUSSING NORTH KOREAN TRIP WITH COSTA RICAN
CHARGE MONGE, EMBASSY SHOULD DRAW ON REF B AS APPROPRIATE.
MORE GENERALLY, WE WOULD NOT WISH TO GIVE ANY IMPRESSION
WE ARE ENCOURAGING HIM TO GO TO PYONGYANG.

2. IF OCCASION ARISES FOR DISCUSSION OF USG ATTITUDE'
TOWARD COSTA RICAN RECOGNITION OF NORTH KOREA, EMBASSY
SHOULD DRAW ON FOLLOWING GUIDANCE.

3. USG UNDERSTANDS DESIRE OF MANY COUNTRIES TO ESTABLISH
RELATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA UNDER PRINCIPLE OF UNIVERSALITY.

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MOREOVER, WE RECOGNIZE THAT IN LONG RUN IT WILL BE

BENEFICIAL TO BRING NORTH KOREA INTO MORE REASONABLE ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, INCLUDING FULL MEMBERSHIP IN UNGA ALONG WITH ROK, AS ROK HAS PROPOSED (BUT NORTH OPPOSES) HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THAT EVEN-HANDED TREATMENT OF TWO KOREAN PARTIES BY INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS ESSENTIAL TO CREATE CLIMATE CONDUCTIVE TO STABILITY OF KOREAN PENINSULA

AND RESOLUTION OF KOREAN ISSUES BY KOREANS. ROKG HAS RECOGNIZED THIS NECESSITY AND PRESIDENT PARK IN JUNE 1973 PUBLICLY EXPRESSED INTENTION TO DEAL WITH ALL COUNTRIES ON BASIS OF EQUALITY AND RECIPROCITY.

4. IN CONTRAST, HOWEVER, NK HAS ACTIVELY SOUGHT TO RESTRICT ACTION BY HER FRIENDS AND ALLIES TOWARD DEVELOPING RELATIONS WITH THE ROK, AS RESULT OF WHICH SUBSEQUENT MOVEMENT HAS BEEN TOWARD RECOGNITION OF NORTH WITH NO CORRESPONDING RECIPROCITY BY ALLIES OF NK. ALTHOUGH APPROACHES BY FRIENDS OF ROKG HAVE BEEN MADE TO BLOC COUNTRIES, NONE HAS YET AGREED TO RECOGNIZE THE SOUTH. ACCORDINGLY, COSTA RICA COULD MAKE CONTRIBUTION TO CONCEPT OF EQUAL TREATMENT BY ADOPTING POSITION THAT IT WOULD BE PREPARED TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH NORTH ONLY AS PART OF PARALLEL MOVE BY FRIENDS OF NORTH TOWARD ROK. KISSINGER

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